

## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 111707

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, JM, GY

SUBJECT: US/UK TALKS ON LATIN AMERICA: JAMAICA AND  
GUYANA SITUATIONS

1. DURING MEETING IN WASHINGTON ON APRIL 28, ASSISTANT  
SECRETARY ROGERS AND BRITISH MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN  
AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS ROWLANDS EXCHANGED VIEWS ON CUR-  
RENT GUYANESE AND JAMAICAN SITUATION.

2. RE JAMAICA, ROWLANDS AND FCO ASSISTANT UNDER SECRETARY  
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LARMOUR (WHO IS ALSO A FORMER UK HIGH COMMISSIONER TO  
JAMAICA) TOOK GENERALLY OPTIMISTIC VIEW. THEIR ESTIMATE

IS THAT WHILE CUBAN MODEL MAY HAVE SOME SHORT-TERM ATTRAC-  
TION FOR MANLEY, HE IS VERY UNLIKELY "TO BUY IT HOOK,  
LINE, AND SINKER."

3. UK SIDE INDICATED THAT IT SEES JAMAICA AS TEST CASE  
AS TO WHETHER "ALTERNATIVE SYSTEM" CAN SOLVE SERIOUS SOCIAL  
AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF JAMAICAN SOCIETY, AND MADE ARGU-  
MENT THAT WAYS SHOULD BE FOUND TO AID IN ALLEVIATING  
GOJ'S PRESENT ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. WE REPLIED THAT WE SHARE  
UK VIEW THAT POST-COLONIAL SOCIETY LIKE JAMAICA CAN SUC-  
CEED WITHOUT ADOPTING COMMUNIST OR OTHER TYPE OF TOTALI-  
TARIAN SYSTEM. ON OTHER HAND, WE VIEW MAJOR ECONOMIC

PROBLEMS CONFRONTING GOJ AS SUSCEPTIBLE TO SOLUTION MAINLY  
THROUGH RIGOROUS INTERNAL EFFORTS, AND WE DOUBT LIMITED  
RESOURCES AVAILABLE FROM EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS WILL  
HELP WITHOUT SUCH EFFORTS.

3. ON GUYANA, ROGERS MADE FOLLOWING POINTS: A) US HAS  
REPEATEDLY ASSURED GOG THAT WE CAN LIVE WITH ITS DOMESTIC  
EVOLUTION TOWARD SELF-PROCLAIMED MARXIST-LENINIST SOCIETY.  
B) GOG, HOWEVER, IS CONVINCED OF INTENTION OF BRAZIL AND  
VENEZUELA TO "DESTABILIZE" GUYANA, EVEN THOUGH THERE IS NO  
EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THIS CONVICTION. C) PROBLEM AS WE SEE  
IT IS THAT GUYANA'S COMPULSIVE DISTRUST OF ITS NEIGHBORS  
COULD LEAD TO SELF-FULFILLING PROPHECY, I.E., THE MORE  
GOG CONVINCES ITSELF THAT THREAT EXISTS AND THE MORE IT  
TURNS TO CUBA FOR PROTECTION AGAINST THIS THREAT, THE  
MORE REAL THE THREAT OF INTERVENTION MAY BECOME.

4. ROWLANDS TOOK CAREFUL NOTE OF OUR VIEWS ON GUYANA  
SITUATION. HE GAVE IMPRESSION THAT HMG MIGHT DURING  
VISIT TO UK BY THE BRAZILIAN PRESIDENT SUGGEST THAT  
BRAZILIANS TAKE STEPS TO EASE GUYANESE ANXIETIES.

5. COMMENT: UK SIDE EVINced SKEPTICISM ABOUT OUR CON-  
CERNS OVER GUYANA, ITS RELATIONS WITH CUBA, AND THE IMPACT  
ON THE CUBA CONNECTION ON GUYANA'S RELATIONS WITH ITS  
NEIGHBORS. KISSINGER

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